

AIFF announces their "Aruba Lives Green" project pg 3



Enjoy Aruba's  
57th carnaval

Join in the 2nd Annual Aruba Int'l. Film Festival... pg 9

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# THE MORNING NEWS

Your Source for local news in English Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 5889518.

## Aruban Little Leaguers win the 6th edition of Moca 2011 Kids Baseball World Series



Aruba's team to the Moca 2011 Kids Baseball World Series conducted in Moca, Dominican Republic, returned triumphant on Tuesday evening, March 1, sporting the Carlos Gomez Cup. The competition, for Little League category players ages 10 to 13, was established in 2000, and takes place in D/R every other year.

*Continued on page 5*

## Canine Carnival Royalty crowned during Cas Animal fundraising Pawrade



Carnival Queen Dulce of the small breeds



Pancho Clown of the small breeds

Doggies ruled in Palm Beach on Tuesday evening, March 1, as the Cas Animal Foundation, a refuge for stray dogs and cats with a strict no-kill policy, conducted its fund-raising Carnival Pawrade ending in Palm Beach Plaza

for the selection of a Carnival Queen and Prins & Pancho in both large and small breed categories.

Judges Farida Luidens of Checkpoint Color and Andreina Contreras of the Contreras Veterinary Clinic in

Shaba had a tough time choosing between the entrants, adorably garbed in festive carnival dress, some remarkably elaborate and authentic.

*Continued on page 8*

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**TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC**

## Anti-gay US church has right to protest funerals: court



WASHINGTON (AFP)-A church that protests military funerals with signs saying "Thank God for dead soldiers" and "God hates fags" is protected by the US constitution's right to free speech, the Supreme Court ruled.

"Speech is powerful. It can stir people to action, move them to tears of both joy and sorrow, and -- as it did here --

inflict great pain," said the decision in favor of the Westboro Baptist church, which protests soldiers' funerals, claiming God killed them to show anger over US tolerance of homosexuality. "On the facts before us, we cannot react to that pain by punishing the speaker," Chief Justice John Roberts wrote in an eight-to-one decision in favor of the church made up mainly of direct members of the family of founder and leader Fred Phelps.

Phelps was sued several years ago for defamation, invasion of privacy and intentional infliction of distress by the father of Marine Lance Corporal Matthew Snyder, who died in Iraq in 2006 -- and was not gay. According to the Supreme Court decision, the Westboro Baptists protested Matthew Snyder's funeral, carrying signs with slogans including "God Hates the USA/Thank God for 9/11," "America is Doomed," "Fag Troops," and "You're going to hell."

But they protested peacefully and with police permission on private land about 1,000 feet (300 meters) from the Maryland church where the funeral was held, the decision says. While the signs "fall short of refined social or political commentary... they

reflect the fact that the church finds much to condemn in modern society," the justices said, characterizing the Westboro Baptist Church's message as "speech on a matter of public concern." "The funeral setting does not alter that conclusion," the decision added.

The lone dissenting justice, Samuel Alito, denounced the church's "brutalization" of Snyder, which he said should not be allowed on the pretext of defending First Amendment rights to free speech.

"Our profound national commitment to free and open debate is not a license for the vicious verbal assault that occurred in this case," Alito said.

"In order to have a society in which public issues can be openly and vigorously debated, it is not necessary to allow the brutalization of innocent victims like the petitioner." Many ordinary Americans were rooting for Snyder and his family, whose grief was compounded by the fact that the justices handed down their decision almost five years to the day that Matthew died in Iraq at the age of 20. "Matt was killed 3/3/06 in Iraq fighting for a country he completely believed in, fighting for the very rights that these people have taken to an entirely new level," she said.

But free speech advocates like lawyer Andrew Contiguglia hailed the decision -- even if they disagreed with the way the Westboro Baptists express themselves.

"This shows that the old adage 'I may disagree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it' still stands strong in the 21st century," Contiguglia said.



ISLAMABAD, Pakistan -- The blood-stained car of Pakistani Minorities Minister Shahbaz Bhatti following an attack in Islamabad on yesterday. Gunmen shot dead a Catholic Pakistani government minister, after he had vowed to defy death threats following the murder of another politician opposed to an Islamic blasphemy law.

AFP PHOTO

## Dutch government unlikely to get senate majority: exit poll

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands (AFP) - The rightist Dutch government, backed by an anti-Islam party, is unlikely to get the majority it needs to pass laws through the veto-wielding senate, an exit poll from provincial elections said.

The poll, conducted by the Synovate market research company, gave 35 out of 75 senate seats to the pro-business, liberal party (VVD), its governing alliance partner the Christian Democratic Action, and the Party for Freedom (PVV) of controversial anti-Islam lawmaker Geert Wilders.

In an unusually closely watched election for the country's 12 provincial councils, voters chose 566 deputies who will be charged in turn with electing, along party lines, the upper house of parliament, or senate, on May 23.

The VVD-CDA minority



government that came to power in national elections last June already relies on an unstable pact with Wilders's PVV to pass laws through the 150-seat lower house.

It now needs majority support in the senate to pursue its rightist programme of budget cuts and tougher immigration measures backed by the PVV but much maligned by the opposition.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

SETAR N.V. informs all its subscribers that the last day to pay their telephone bills is:

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## **Aruba International Film Festival announces their “Aruba Lives Green” project for 2011**



**Donny Rasmijn, Jimmy Mijir, Giuseppe and Jonathan**

Producers of the AIFF, Jonathan Vieira and Giuseppe Cioccarelli, established a policy of promoting “green” initiatives with the first edition of the film festival in 2010 by sponsoring tree plantings in Aruba’s Arikok National Park, among other projects.

On Tuesday evening, March 1, they presented their newest environmental awareness effort associated with the 2011 AIFF, which will take place from June 10 to 16, during a press conference at TGI Fridays, in the Paseo Herencia Mall, the hub for festival activities.

The announcement was preceded by a presentation by Parliamentarian Donny Rasmijn, which outlined the necessity of consumer control of energy and water consumption to help reduce costs not only in their individual homes, but how this results in decreased power expense for the entire community. His talk provided simple and inexpensive solu-

tions, such as installing a pressure regulator to water pipes and replacing high energy-eating bulbs and appliances for LED lamps and appliances that deploy inverter technology; the possible savings were eye-opening. “Take care of your utility bills before they take care of you!” he concluded.

This year, AIFF is sponsoring an “Aruba Lives Green” video competition. The challenge is to create a 3 to 5 minute video demonstrating how Aruban citizens can use modern technology to support a green lifestyle; tying into Parliamentarian Rasmijn’s presentation. All videos must be shot on the island of Aruba, and its content must be related to existing conditions on the island. Free entrance to Arikok Park is awarded to all entrants upon registration of their participation in the contest. Interested filmmakers should visit [www.aiif.aw](http://www.aiif.aw) to download the required forms and register; in-



## **Pointers to Ponder**

Tony A.D. Green

[www.people-self-development.com](http://www.people-self-development.com)



## **Four things to turn him back on to you!**

### **Part I**

In my last writing of Pointers to Ponder articles I focused in on women in our community. Today, I feel like continuing for just a bit more on another subject dealing with women. I realize that we men also have many issues to deal with and can have as many problems or difficult situations to face as do women. I will get to men’s issues in subsequent articles. For now, let’s zero in again on women today.

A Dead Relationship? In my practice I see many women, and couples who go through very difficult times

and who often are at the point of “throwing in the towel” on their relationship. So many come with their minds already made up that it is no use, their relationship will never get any better and so they conclude that they must end it. But, you know, for many, the desired change happens once they both understand how the other is wired, what makes the other “tick.” And, I have seen many couples do, the to them, impossible turn around, and walk away determined to start over again and begin a renewed love and affection for each other.

Grant you, I have also experienced the pain of watching couples put an end to their relationship, even after all efforts to save the relationship. But, let me share with you the ‘keys’ to turning around your relationship.

Have you had a man make a 180 about turn in your relationship? Suddenly he is not the same anymore? He has changed the way he feels about you, and without giving you any real reason for the change? You remember how he used to call just to hear your voice? How he would call just to tell you how much he loved you? And, now, suddenly, he never calls, or when he does finally call it is for some routine matter or business? You remember how affectionate he used to be, but now he seems so aloof and cold. He has suddenly shut down and is not saying those lovely things and doing those sweet things that made you feel like your relationship was going somewhere. And, what hurts so much is that it all happened without any warning and out of the clear blue sky... no reason whatsoever..., at least that is what you think and how it seems to you!

Like every normal woman, you’re angry, frustrated, and simply bewildered. You wonder if this is all because of you.

Daily you wake up with questions, you go through your day with questions, you retire at night with questions...but you get no answers to your questions!

The Purpose: Well, the purpose of this article is to assure



you; first of all that you’re not alone in this, there are countless other women going through this exact same situation. I hope that is a bit comforting. That simply means that you are not weird or some magnet for bad guys! Secondly, I want to show you where you may have gone wrong and finally I will show you what you need to know to turn things around. I am giving you some of the same advice I give my clients when they come in with similar situations in their lives. Now, for the sake of space, I am forced to share this information in two or three segments. So, you will want to get all of the upcoming editions of this excellent English news daily.

Suffice me to share with you today in the remaining space I have here that your love life is not doomed forever. The moment you start doing a few right things that I will share with you, things will change...I know it will – because I have seen it happen time and time again!

Once you understand what a man really needs to feel in love and happy in a relationship, and implement the simple steps I will outline...the tide will change in your relationship!

Over the years from my counseling with numerous couples and women, and from my years of research on the subject, I have discovered that there are 4 key things that turn on a good and mature man to having a vibrant, passionate relationship with a woman! Well, I have to stop right here for now. Come back tomorrow for the next article if you will. Thanks.

Write me, and tell me if this was helpful: [www.themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com](mailto:www.themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com)

by Rosalie Klein



*congratulates*



*Pabien!*



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## Louis Vuitton present at Academy Awards Ceremony 2011 83rd Edition



Gwyneth Paltrow

On the occasion of the 83rd Academy Awards in Los Angeles, actress Gwyneth Paltrow, wore earrings and brooch, and a ring from the Louis Vuitton high jewellery collection, "L'Amé du Voyage." The earrings and brooch feature Louis Vuitton diamonds and coloured stones on white, yellow and red gold. The ring fea-

tures Louis Vuitton diamonds and baguette diamonds on white gold.

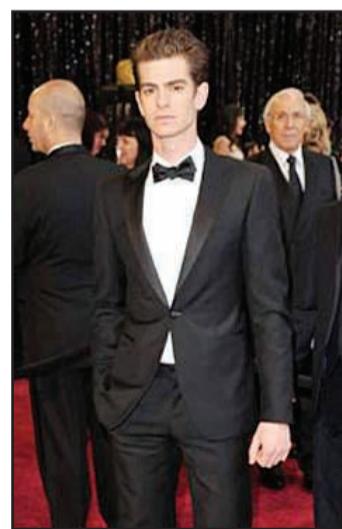
"L'Amé du Voyage" high jewellery collection is characterised by two exclusive stone cuts: the Louis Vuitton diamonds. Replicating the contours of the Monogram flowers – the Maison Louis Vuitton legendary emblems – these iconic and immediately recognizable diamonds emphasize the identity of each creation.

British actor Andrew Garfield wore a Louis Vuitton tuxedo and a pair of shoes.

Producer Emile Sherman wore a Louis Vuitton tuxedo and shoes, and won the Oscar for best motion picture for The King's speech.

About Louis Vuitton:

Founded in Paris in 1854, Louis Vuitton has been synonymous with the art of travel. Its iconic trunks and luggage have accompanied



Andrew Garfield

journeys throughout time. With the arrival of Artistic Director Marc Jacobs in 1997, Louis Vuitton extended its expertise to ready-to-wear, shoes, accessories, watches and jewellery, available in its exclusive network of stores located in over sixty countries.

## Zissles sets new standards for food and entertainment on Aruba



It is a common misconception that when presenting a dinner show on Aruba, either the quality of the entertainment or the cuisine must suffer; Zissles in Paseo Herencia Mall is determined to prove this untrue by setting a new standard on both counts.

Owner/Operator Ingrid is not only fastidious in her choice of performers, but



and engaging singer/musician presents one of the most exciting nightly shows Aruba has seen in a long while.

If you are looking for a particularly perfect way to mark a



in the quality of her kitchen, and is now offering a gourmet menu at very reasonable prices, establishing the club as a stand alone restaurant. Beginning on March 1, they are featuring a choice of dinner/show package, a sumptu-

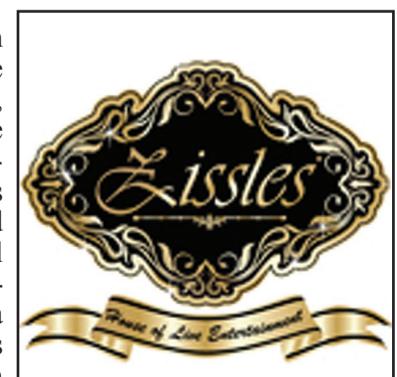


Damian Cartier



Tammy T

special event or simply wish a truly memorable night in Aruba, Zissles is unique and has it all; fantastic food, exciting entertainment, and a delightfully elegant ambiance makes any visit a celebration!



ous a la carte menu and an early bird special for those seated between 5-7:20 p.m., for only \$29 for a 3-course meal. This offers the opportunity to savor the Zissles appealing selection and then stay on for a full evening of exceptional entertainment by purchasing a ticket for the D'Licious show separately, which

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## Aruban Little Leaguers win the 6th edition of Moca 2011 Kids Baseball World Series

Continued from page 1



This was the first time Aruba participated in the Moca Kids Baseball World Series and they won the championship, playing against teams from Puerto Rico, Nicaragua, 2 from Venezuela (Valencia, and Aragua), United States and the Dominican Republic. The United States team was the defending champions of the 2009

edition, where a team from New York took the title; they had also won in 2005. Venezuela won in 2000, while the Moca home team won for the Dominican Republic in 2003 and 2007.

Rolando Paulino, a noted youth baseball promoter and coach who organizes the event, was very pleased with the ex-

citing final game, closing the series which took place from February 20 to 27. "I'm very happy with the way the game ended, this was something extraordinary, the way both teams fought for through 11 innings, no one here left the stadium despite the fact no local team was playing and it was almost midnight."

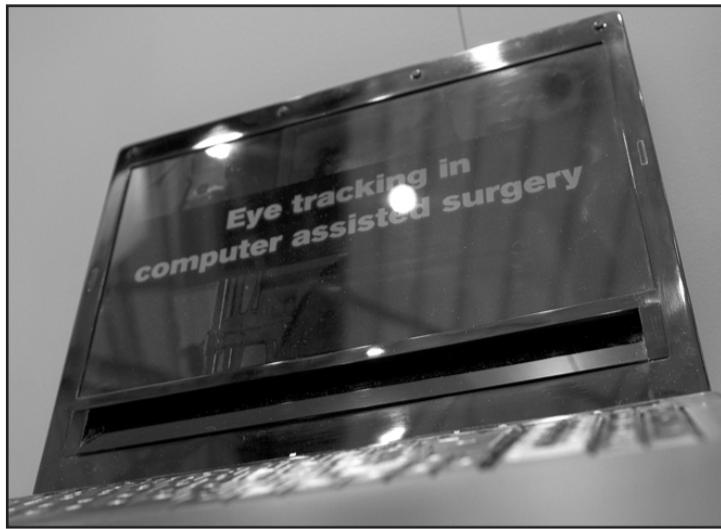


Aruban coaches credit outstanding performances by Aruban team members Edward Thomas with 2 singles, Gillian Wernet and Anton Marchena Gilliam with a single each and winning pitcher Jeandrick Oduber for this victory. A single by Ryan Oduber in the first half of the 11th inning of the final game drove the run to give Aruba a 3-2 victory over the Dominican Republic's Northern District La Javilla team and win the series. Oduber produced his winning homer with 2 outs and players on 3rd and 2nd base, against losing pitcher Johnny Cuevas; the game lasted 3 hours and 20 minutes. This immediately set the tune for the celebration of Aruba's players and fans attending the international event for the first time.

by Rosalie Klein

## Sci-Tech

# Eye-controlled laptop turns heads at high-tech fair



HANOVER, Germany (AFP) – Billed as a global first, a laptop allowing users to open files, play music and view pictures using just the power of their eyes was turning heads Wednesday at the CeBIT, the world's top tech fair.

The otherwise unremarkable laptop integrates cutting-edge "eye tracking" technology by Swedish firm Tobii that follows the movement of the user's eyes and

allows him or her to operate menus and select icons.

The prototype is also good for the environment as it recognises when you are not looking at it and automatically goes into screen saver mode, saving energy, Tobii says. It restarts as soon as the user glances at the monitor again.

"It's definitely going to be in the laptops of the future," said Anders Olsson from Tobii. "You can do pretty

much anything you would do with your normal laptop.

"We've been stuck for a quarter of a century with a keyboard and a mouse. It's time to move to the next step and eye control technology is the perfect solution."

The technology is already used in other areas, including in car safety where a sensor tracks eye movement to determine whether the driver is drowsy, and in helping paralysed people operate everyday objects just with their eyes.

However, this is the first time it has been applied to a laptop.

The prototype has only just been developed, said Olsson, adding that if the technology gets taken up by IT firms, it could be in the shops in the very near future.

"It's probably a couple of years away," he said.

More than 4,200 exhibitors are showcasing their latest gadgets and technology at the CeBIT in Hanover, Germany, which hopes to attract 350,000 visitors by the

## Steve Jobs unveils new iPad



SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) – Apple chief executive Steve Jobs made a surprise appearance here on Wednesday to unveil a new version of the iPad that is thinner, lighter and features video cameras.

"We've been working on this product quite awhile and I just didn't want to miss a great day," said Jobs, who appeared gaunt but energetic and was dressed in his trademark black turtleneck and blue jeans.

Jobs, who went on medical leave in January for an unspecified illness, said the new iPad 2 features front-and rear-facing video cameras to enable video chat and is thinner than the previous

version.

"The new iPad 2 is actually thinner than your iPhone 4," said Jobs. "It is dramatically thinner, not a little thinner, a third thinner."

It weighs 1.3 pounds, down from 1.5 pounds, and

will come in black and white models.

Jobs said the iPad 2 will sell for the same \$499-\$829 price as the previous model.

It will ship in the United States on March 11 and on March 25 in 26 other countries including France, Germany and Japan.

Jobs said the iPad 2 is "dramatically faster" due to a new A5 chip. "The graphics in this thing are wonderful," he said.

"2010 turned out to be the year of the iPad," Jobs said.

"We sold almost 15 million iPads in 2010 from April to December," Jobs said. "It generated a little shy of 10 billion dollars in revenue for Apple."

## S. Korea expands high-speed wireless coverage

SEOUL (AFP) – South Korean telecom operator KT said Wednesday it has expanded its high-speed wireless broadband network to cover 85 percent of the population in what is already one of the world's most wired countries.

The nation's second-largest mobile operator said it has spread its fourth-genera-

tion (4G) WiBro network to 82 cities and major highways from five major cities previously.

The change allows its mobile users to download wireless data and access the Internet nearly three times faster than the previously-available 3G network, the company said in a statement.

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## Earth Hour: from switching off to taking action

**Earth Hour will be marked this year on March 26**



caused by the cycle of meat production and consumption, it added.

Pakistani cricket legend Wasim Akram has promised to stop using plastic bags.

Organisers have set up a website, www.earthhour.org/beyondthehour, on which individuals, organisations and governments worldwide can post their pledges.

Earth Hour will be marked this year on March 26. Last year, hundreds of millions of people worldwide took part in the event by switching off their lights for an hour.

But environmental campaigners said the turn-off was "only the beginning".

Jim Leape, director general of environmental group WWF International, which helped initiate the movement, said small individual actions can go a long way to saving planet Earth.

"The challenges that face our planet are immense, but never underestimate the possibility for change when we face these challenges with true common purpose," he said.

"It is now time to go beyond the hour and show what can be done -- by the people for the planet."

Andy Ridley, Earth Hour co-founder and executive director, said "social media will play a crucial role for Earth Hour 2011, allowing us to connect with millions of people who are committed to taking lasting action for the planet."

The website is available in 11 languages and is integrated with social media networks such as Facebook, Twitter, Mixi and Myspace.

"Everyone has the power to make change -- a CEO can change an organisation, a seven-year-old can change a classroom and a president can change a country," Ridley said.

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## Health & Living

### Surrogacy banned under Malaysian fatwa

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AFP) – Surrogacy is forbidden under Islam, a religious authority in Malaysia said after reports that the practice is becoming more popular in the Muslim-majority nation.

"If another woman is introduced into the situation, then it means the real mother of the child can be questioned," said Mat Jais Kamos from the Islamic affairs department in Malaysia's biggest state, Selangor.

"This creates confusion in Islamic law especially when it comes to inheritance, as it will be hard to determine the individual's bloodline and thus the person's rights to any inheritance," he told AFP.

Mat Jais said a fatwa banning surrogacy was issued by the National Council of Islamic Religious Affairs in 2008. The decision had not been widely reported until now. "It categorically states that such a form of pregnancy is unacceptable under Islamic law," Mat Jais said, adding that

IVF is permissible as long as the sperm and egg belong to a married couple.

"In Islam, it is not permissible for the sperm of the male of a married couple to be implanted into the egg of another woman," he said. "That is considered a violation because the man is not married to this other woman and yet she is the bearer of his child out of wedlock."

The Straits Times newspaper reported on the weekend that surrogacy is on the rise in Malaysia, but that there were a lack of rules to govern the practice.

Religious authorities have previously caused waves with other bans including one on yoga, which Islamic clerics said could erode faith in Islam because it involved physical and religious elements of Hinduism.

However, bans on alcohol and sex out of marriage are in some parts of the country enthusiastically enforced by "morality police" who carry out raids on hotels and pubs.

### Designer drugs on the rise, says drugs agency



A poppy field in Afghanistan.

VIENNA, Austria (AFP) – Designer drugs, modified to get around tight controls, are being produced in growing numbers and at an ever-faster pace, drugs monitoring agency INCB warned in its annual report.

"These drugs are often produced by modifying the molecular structure of illegal substances, resulting in a new product with similar effects, which then circumvents control measures," the International Narcotics Control Board said.

Detailed instructions for

the manufacture of designer drugs are often shared via the Internet," the Vienna-based UN agency also noted.

They were currently monitoring 16 new designer drugs in Europe and as many as 51 in Japan.

"Given the health risks posed by the abuse of designer drugs, we urge governments to adopt national control measures to prevent the manufacture, trafficking in and abuse of these substances," INCB President Hamid Ghodse said.

So far as legal drugs were concerned, the report called for

greater efforts to crack down on corruption and enable better access in many parts of Africa and Asia through better legislation and education and improved distribution.

"Corruption is one of the underlying factors that makes drug trafficking possible," the INCB noted.

The report said that 90 percent of legal drugs on the market were consumed by Western countries.

But "more than 80 percent of the world's population has no or insufficient access to pain relief drugs and are suffering unnecessary pain because of it," mostly in Africa, Asia and the Americas, it added.

South Asia was now one of the main sources for traffickers of chemicals to produce synthetic drugs, the INCB noted.

Europe meanwhile made up nearly half of the world's consumption of heroin, most of it coming from Afghanistan.

Cocaine trafficking was also up again in Africa, on its way to Europe, after having fallen for two years, the report added.

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## Canine Carnival Royalty crowned during Cas Animal fundraising Pawrade

Continued from page 1



Kiki with Judges and MC Claudie



Dulce the poodle was a sure-fire winner for Carnival Queen, Small Dog Division, but Joy the Great Dane proved you could be huge, extremely feminine, and maintain your dignity while forced to wear vibrantly hued feathers, winning her the Large Dog crown.

Taking the titles in the

Small Dog Category were pugs Prins Jans and Pancho Clown; Large Dog winners were Prins Tito & Pancho Scooby, a fine example of Aruba's handsome "Cunucu dogs."

A beautifully bumblebee costumed Chihuahua won best costume. All the winners re-

ceived lovely crowns crafted and donated by Soraida. Kiki Arndt, founder of Cas Animal and its single, hard-working volunteer, expresses her heartfelt gratitude to the judges and Claudie Wegdam, who was a wonderfully animated MC.

She also thanks Compra NV for donating the bags of Beneful dog food, which was awarded as prizes; Palm Beach Plaza for generously hosting the event, Jessy of Contreras for her kind assistance at all

times, the Red Cross, FPNC, IDEFRE and Balashi Beer of Aruba, who donated the souvenir tee shirts.

Winners gave thanks when crowned with a resounding



"Rowf!"

by Rosalie Klein

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## Join in the 2nd Annual Aruba International Film Festival by designing this year's poster

AIFF organizers Jonathon Vieira and Giuseppe Cioccarelli announced a new poster contest for 2011, encouraging islanders to be a part of the process, which will be integrated into this year's AIFF. Creators of the top ten designs will be invited to a special evening at Paseo Herencia on Thursday, April 7, when the winner will be announced and the poster unveiled.

To participate in the poster contest, fill out the form on their website, [www.aiif.aw](http://www.aiif.aw) and e-mail it to [poster@aurabafilm.com](mailto:poster@aurabafilm.com) or bring it to the AIFF offices in Paseo Herencia Mall. All entries must be submitted by March 31 and can be created in any medium but must be original, except for the AIFF Logo, which can be downloaded from the website, for the sole use of creating the poster. Submissions must be a



minimum of letter size, 8.5 by 11 inches or larger but with equivalent proportion, and portrait oriented. Any entry MUST contain this information:

- 1) Aruba International Film Festival,
- 2) The AIFF Logo
- 3) June 10-16, 2011.

The artist's signature and contact info should be attached to the back of the poster, including name, phone number and e-mail, clearly and legibly printed. Winner will receive a cash award of 1,000 Aruban florins and an "All Access Pass" to AIFF 2011.

by Rosalie Klein

## BACK THEN

The following was written by a columnist for a Massachusetts daily newspaper in 1968. It re-surfaced recently and is of interest today.

"The first part of our vacation was spent in Aruba which is the most delightful island in the Caribbean. Owned by the Dutch, it is 18 miles off the coast of Venezuela. It is extraordinary for several reasons, among them its perfect weather and the totally charming and beautiful people.

= = =

The United States government has chosen Aruba as an R&R area (rest and recreation) for some of its servicemen. It is a very small island and any large influx of anything is well known to everyone in a matter of minutes.

= = =

While we were there, two large ships tied up with their cargo of U.S. Marines. One ship was the U.S. Raleigh, which is about the size of the Artery Arcade; the other, whose name I never did get was a bit smaller. With 3-day passes most of the boys were all about the island. Many spent their days at the few hotels swimming and enjoying the outdoor bar facilities. Others went shopping (Aruba is a free port), sightseeing and otherwise indulging in those activities that young men indulge in when they are in port.

= = =

There were no incidents at any of the hotels or bars during their stay; even those boys who got on the wobbly side did it quietly. All the many Americans who were sharing the island with the marines and sailors were quite taken by their behavior and by how young they all seemed to be.

An aunt of mine used to say that when policemen begin to look too young, you know you are getting old. So the usual wisecracks flew about, "if that what's defending my country at that age, I don't feel defended."

= = =

We noticed that often the boys sought out older women just to talk to about home, girlfriends, and school which seemed a little odd, especially in the hotel casino. But we just shrugged it off as their youth showing. But their eyes were what stood out most about the calm, the quiet, and the yearning for conversation. Their eyes were dead. There was no sparkle. When they laughed, their eyes stayed cold. They cheered when they won in the casino but their eyes never showed their glee. They rough-housed in the sea and in the pools but their eyes never twinkled.

= = =

They thanked you for any of the little kindnesses but their eyes were empty. It was unnerving.

How blasé this younger generation is, we said to one another. They are so bored with everything that even a lovely tropical island leaves them cold. Just before they left some of us were told what had been the best kept secret on the island. All the young men were on their way home after months and months of fighting the war in Vietnam."

= = =

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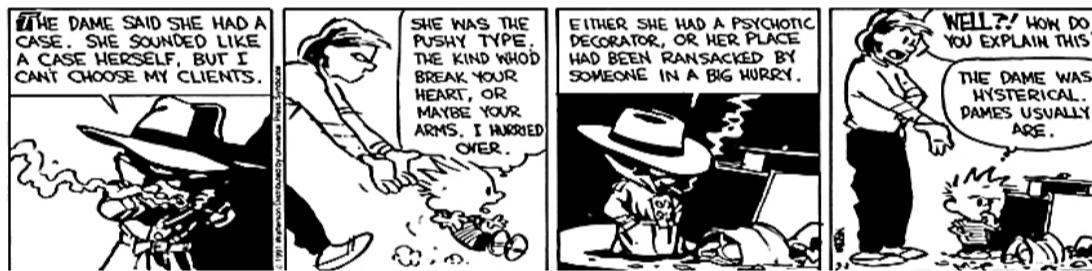
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CALVIN and HOBBES



## CROSSWORD

## CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

- Perplexed
- Zodiacal symbol
- Trudge
- Escutcheon border
- Actress June \_\_\_
- Hindu princess
- Approach
- Worship
- Greases
- Yarn creator
- Cartoon bear
- Morsel
- Free
- Dutch philosopher
- Bert and Rosa
- Alternating chances
- Roe
- Mountain sacred to Buddhism
- Prunes
- Hitch
- Maiden-name indicator
- Ease
- "\_\_\_ Dreams" (Heart hit)
- Salad greens
- Specters
- Decompose
- Having wings
- Kissing game
- Shakes

## 54. Viscounts' superiors

55. Composed

57. Diva Mills

58. Thin coins

59. Jamaican fruit

60. Marks

61. Indiana city

62. Despot

## DOWN

1. Welk's Champagne

Lady Alice \_\_\_

2. Pay dirts

3. Insult

4. Soy marinade

5. Modify

6. Spokes

7. Stratford's river

8. Glacier

breakaway, for short

9. Expeditedly

10. Anagram for nail

11. Exclusively

12. God of the underworld

15. Unites again

21. Strong ales

22. Certain fish-eaters

25. On top of

26. Calls

27. Move slowly

28. Twilled silk fabric

## 29. Victim

30. Regions

31. Sea captain's command

33. Gray-green mineral

35. Time spans

37. Braided

38. Quicker way

40. Prolific author?: abbr.

41. Part of "TWTWTW"

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43. Flags

44. Slick

46. More skillful

47. Actress Gilbert of "Roseanne"

48. Goody-goody

49. Reagan's secretary of state

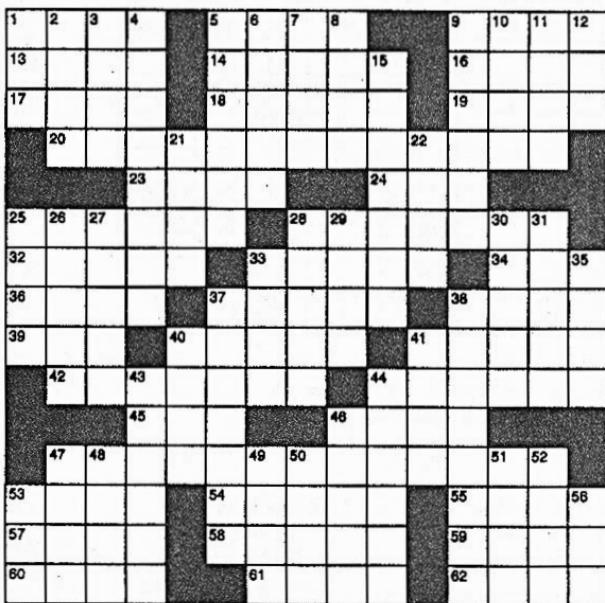
50. Columnist Bombeck

51. Dawdles

52. She, in Madrid

53. Spurt

56. Prerevolutionary Russian commune



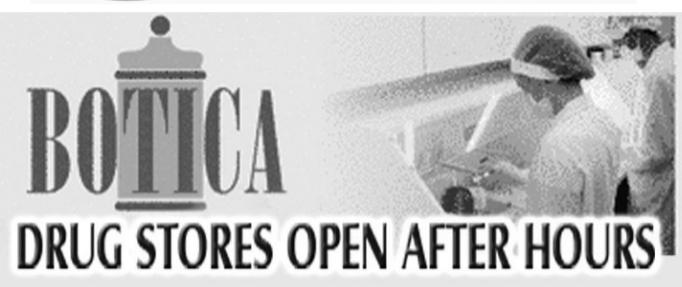
SOLUTION

6	4	9	5	8	1	3	7	2
3	5	1	9	7	2	4	8	6
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7	9	4	3	1	2	9	1	5
1	8	2	7	8	3	6	4	9
8	2	4	6	1	8	2	3	5
9	6	7	2	4	5	8	1	3
4	1	5	8	3	6	7	2	9

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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8	2	7	8	3	6	4	9	5
9	6	7	2	4	5	8	1	3
4	1	5	8	3	6	7	2	9



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## Finance

### Gold hits record high on Libya tensions, weak dollar

LONDON, England (AFP) - Gold prices surged to a new record high, driven by the search for safe havens amid violent unrest in Libya, and as the dollar fell against major rival currencies, traders said.



Gold leapt to \$1,440.32 per ounce on the London Bullion Market at about 1650 GMT, beating the previous high of \$1,434.93. Silver, meanwhile, soared to \$34.98 an ounce, the highest level in 30 years.

"Gold hit a new record high again today as risk aversion took hold in the market ... as Libya looked like descending into civil war," said analyst Ian O'Sullivan at financial betting group Spread Co.

"The weaker dollar is helping to lift the price of gold, as well as the usual high demand for safe haven buying with the current Middle East situation and inflation concerns."

"Silver also hit a new 30-year high as the demand for silver also continues unabated."

=====



HANNOVER, Germany -- Visitors crowd the BlackBerry stand at the CeBIT, world's biggest IT fair, yesterday in Hanover, central Germany. More than 4,200 tech firms from 70 countries are expected to attend this year's CeBIT, with many of the big names that stayed away during the global financial crisis returning to Germany. The fair is running until March 5, 2011. (AFP PHOTO)

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## High oil prices to nearly halve airline profits



GENEVA, Switzerland (AFP) - High oil prices will cut airline industry profits by nearly half this year despite the growth in air travel with the recovery, the International Air Transport Association said.

In a revised profit forecast, IATA said it was downgrading its airline industry profit outlook for 2011 to \$8.6 billion from the \$9.1 billion it estimated in December.

"This is a 46 percent fall in net profits compared to the \$16 billion earned by the industry in 2010," IATA said in a statement.

"The biggest shift in our forecast is the price of oil," IATA director general Giovanni Bisignani told reporters.

Airlines are expected to face a fuel bill of \$166 billion on revenues of \$594 billion even as air travel grows faster than expected and capacity is added.

IATA increased its forecast for the growth in passengers to 5.6 percent in 2011 from its previous estimate of 5.4 percent.

The new forecasts were based on oil prices averaging

\$96 per barrel of Brent crude over the year, compared to \$84 a barrel used in the December forecast.

Unrest in the Middle East was pushing up Brent crude. IATA officials said the global economic recovery was propelling up the industry's remaining profits, reviving travel and air freight.

But rising oil prices add to the uncertainties already tempering hopes for the recovery and have the potential to dampen economic growth if they last or grow further.

IATA declined to comment on the prospect of fuel surcharges or increased ticket prices for passengers.

All regions were expected to be affected to some degree.

## Yahoo! in talks to unload Japan stake



TOKYO, Japan (AFP) - Yahoo! Inc. has been in talks to potentially unload its \$7 billion stake in Yahoo! Japan, a report said, citing a source close to the matter.

However, negotiations are in early stages and no deal is near, according to the Wall Street Journal. Yahoo! owns a 30 percent stake in its Japanese namesake.

Japan's Softbank holds 41.9 percent and is the largest shareholder in the Japanese firm. This week it denied earlier reports that it was in talks with Yahoo! to also buy the US firm's stake.

"We have no intention to acquire the (Yahoo! Japan) shares," Softbank said in a statement.

The Journal cited a person familiar with the matter as saying one of the many options currently being considered by Yahoo! was a sale of

the stake, but no deal has been finalised.

Yahoo! announced in December that it was cutting about 600 jobs in its third wave of layoffs since late 2008 as chief executive Carol Bartz oversees a reorganization for the Internet pioneer.

Executives with the US firm have in recent weeks said

they are examining its stake in the Japanese firm.

Yahoo! Japan holds a dominant position in Internet search in the Japanese market with a more than 50 percent share, compared with around 30 percent for rival Google.

In a deal announced last year, Yahoo! Japan chose Google's search technology to power its web searches and also adopted its advertising and distribution system, while maintaining its current user interface.

Japan's fair trade watchdog in December gave the go-ahead to the search alliance following complaints from Microsoft and Japan's top e-retailer Rakuten that the tie-up would give Google near-total control over the Japanese market.

### TUESDAY'S Crossword Answer



### YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

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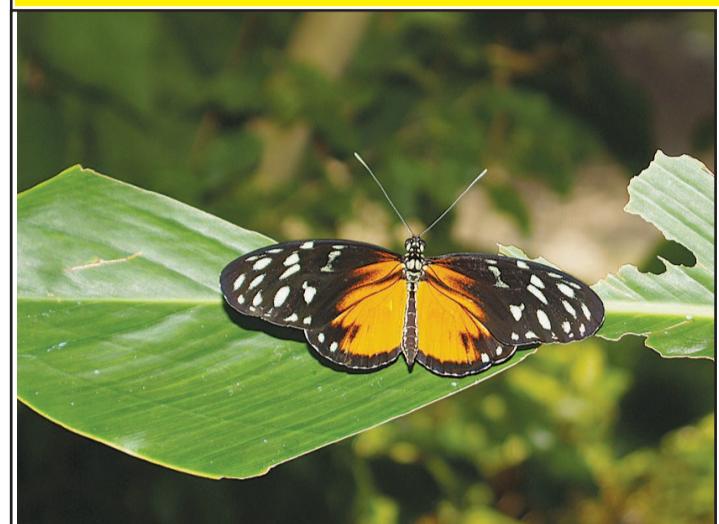
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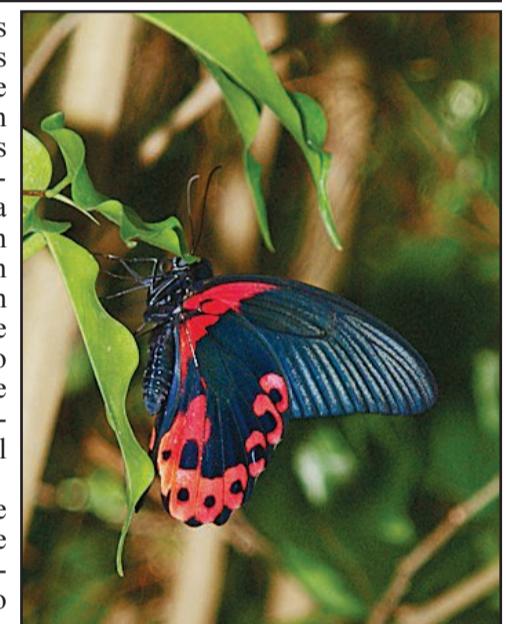


## Aruba Butterfly Farm: Unforgettable encounter with Nature



A visit to Aruba's Butterfly Farm is an unforgettable encounter with nature in all its beauty and diversity. Step into a tropical garden teeming with butterflies from around the globe and prepare to meet some of the world's most colorful and unusual creatures.

Observe the life cycle of these fascinating animals from egg to caterpillar to chrysalis to butterfly. Tour guides will entertain you with commentary on butterfly habits and the miracle of metamorphosis. Arrive early and witness new butterflies emerging from their chrysalis and taking their first flight.



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## Fiji to dump queen from currency



SUVA (AFP) – Fiji will drop Queen Elizabeth II from its currency and replace her with local plants and animals, the South Pacific nation's military ruler Voreqe Bainimarama has announced.

Bainimarama, who seized power in a bloodless coup in 2006, said Fiji's cabinet had accepted his recommendations for new designs on the country's 10 coin and note denominations, none of which featured the Queen.

"Important and iconic flora and fauna of Fiji has been selected to replace Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's portrait," he said in a statement released

He said the new coins would be introduced in June next year.

Bainimarama, who holds the titles of Prime Minister and Fi-

nance Minister among a clutch of other portfolios, gave no reason for the change.

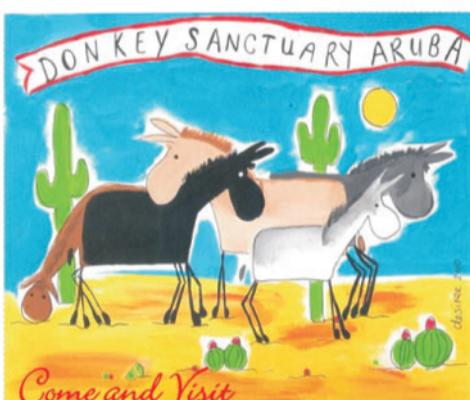
Britain supported the Commonwealth's decision to suspend Fiji in 2009 after Bainimarama's government broke a promise to restore democracy following the coup.

Fiji, a former British colony, gained independence in 1970 but continued to feature the Queen on its coins. Other former British colonies such as Australia, New Zealand and Canada still follow the same practice.

The military strongman did not specify what plants and animals would replace the Queen, although the tourism website [www.govisitfiji.com](http://www.govisitfiji.com) says the island nation is rich in lush vegetation and birdlife.

It says mammals and land-based animals are more scarce, listing iguanas, snakes, turtles and geckos.

Should they prove unsuitable, however, the website says introduced rats, dogs, pigs, goats, mongooses, horses and sheep are common.



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## Nureyev's Don Quixote returns to Vienna

VIENNA, Austria (AFP) – Rudolf Nureyev's "Don Quixote" made a triumphant return to the Vienna State Opera this week, 45 years after it was created here.

Despite a few slips, the Vienna Ballet's production was greeted with roaring applause and a lengthy ovation from audience members usually eager to beat the crowds and out of their seats as soon as the final curtain drops.

Nureyev created his "Don Quixote" for the Vienna Ballet in 1966 -- based on a choreography by Marius Petipa -- and premiered it here on December 1 of that year, with himself in the main role.

Since 1985 however, the production had not been seen on the Vienna Opera stage.

It is now the latest premiere under Ballet director Manuel Legris, a former protege of Nureyev and one-time Paris Opera 'etoile' who himself danced almost "everything" in "Don Quixote" during his career, as he puts it.

After a series of performances tending more towards the contemporary, this classical three-act ballet was a return to the roots, with magnificent set pieces, colourful costumes and a host of comic characters.

From the title role of Don Quixote to his servant Sancho



Maria Yakovleva and Thomas Mayerhofer dance during the general rehearsal for the ballet *Don Quixote* at the state opera in Vienna.

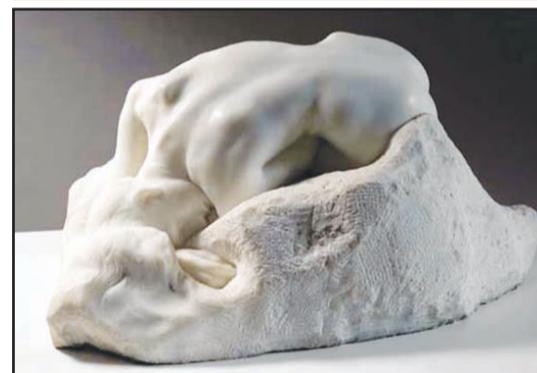
Panza and the dandy Gamache, these mostly non-dancing roles were performed with gusto and perfect comic timing by senior members of the company.

However, the star of the evening was incontestably first solo dancer Maria Yakovleva in the role of Kitri.

Grave and slightly tense in the playful first act, she served up a breathtaking Castanet Variation and shone from then on, gaining the loudest cheers of the evening.

Her Basil, the always excellent Denys Cherevychko,

## Mexican tycoon to open museum of over 60,000 artworks



Seen here Auguste Rodin's *La Danaide* 1885 bonded white marble

MEXICO CITY, Mexico (AFP) – Mexican tycoon and art lover Carlos Slim is set to host a glitzy opening for a museum to house more than 60,000 artworks in Mexico City.

The Soumaya Museum, named after Slim's late wife, is part of an 800-million-dollar urban development, called Plaza Carso and including housing and a five-star hotel, in a previously rundown district of the Mexican capital.

"The Soumaya museum has been made up with the purchase of separate pieces and complete collections. A

large percentage of foreign works were bought in Christie's and Sotheby's auctions," Slim, 71, told journalists at a recent news conference in his offices, which also contain numerous artworks.

The museum's curving facade is inspired by the work of French sculptor Auguste Rodin, one of Slim's preferred artists, and is covered with some 17,000 metal pieces to catch the light.

For the past 16 years, part of the collection has been housed in a smaller museum in the south of the capital, which will remain open.

The new building includes an exhibition space over six floors, as well as a 350-seat auditorium, a public library, a cafeteria, lounge and warehouses.

It will house more than

66,000 works belonging to the Carlos Slim Foundation of mainly Mexican and European art.

The massive collection includes works by Cezanne, Renoir and Matisse, Leonardo Da Vinci and Diego Rivera, as well as pre-Hispanic and colonial coins and documents from the 16th century Spanish conquest of Mexico.

Slim says that his late wife Soumaya, who passed away in 1999, was his inspiration for acquiring art and putting it on show for Mexicans who are unable to afford foreign travel to international museums.

Slim earned his fortune building up the telephone monopoly Telmex after acquiring it from the Mexican government in 1990, and his empire now includes department stores, construction companies and the Inbursa financial group.

Last year he knocked Bill Gates from the top of the Forbes list of the world's billionaires with an estimated fortune of \$3.5 billion dollars.

## Record-breaking O'Brien sees Ireland stun England



**Kevin O'Brien of Ireland celebrates scoring a century batting against England in the Group B 2011 ICC World Cup match between England and Ireland.**

BANGALORE (AFP) - Kevin O'Brien struck the fastest-ever World Cup hundred as Ireland pulled off a sensational three-wicket win over England on Wednesday.

Ireland won with five balls to spare as they finished on 329 for seven after England, who had made 327 for eight, had been cruising when they reduced non-Test playing Ireland to 111 for five.

But a brilliant burst of power-hitting got O'Brien to three figures in just 50 balls at the Chinnaswamy Stadium.

That meant he'd obliterated

former Australia opener Matthew Hayden's previous fastest World Cup century record off 66 balls against South Africa at St Kitts in 2007.

O'Brien's whirlwind innings of 113 off 63 balls, including six sixes and 13 fours, ended when he was run out by Stuart Broad's throw to wicketkeeper Matt Prior.

Ireland's target was down to three off the last over and victory was secured when John Mooney struck a four off James Anderson.

"I don't think it's quite sunk in," said 26-year-old

O'Brien, after another famous win to follow Ireland's shock World Cup triumph over Pakistan in 2007.

"It's probably the best innings I've ever played. I just hit the ball pretty well and got a bit of luck and things went my way. I just kept going and kept attacking."

The win for Ireland, an associate nation, restored pride to the smaller nations at the World Cup, who until now had lost all their games against the Test teams, mostly by huge margins.



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## Westwood, Els among top PGA contenders

PALM BEACH GARDENS (AFP) - Former world number ones Lee Westwood and Ernie Els and reigning British Open champion Louis Oosthuizen will be the star group when the \$5.6 million PGA Honda Classic opens today.

Players from beyond US borders have won five of the past six titles and will be prime contenders for this week's \$1 million prize.

Westwood, toppled from the world number one spot by Germany's Martin Kaymer on Monday after a 17-week reign, could recapture the top spot by finishing alone in third or better. Kaymer is not playing this week.

Els, twice a winner in Florida last March and the 2008 Honda Classic champion, ranks first on the PGA Tour so far this season in reaching greens in regulation, doing so 83.33 percent of the time.

Els has twice shared 17th

this season, at the Tournament of Champions and last week when he was ousted in the second round, but he is hoping to lift his game near his Florida home with Masters week only a month away.

Oosthuizen, a US PGA rookie playing the PGA National course for the first time, shared 62nd at Phoenix in his tour debut and lost in the first round at last week's World Golf Championships Match-Play Championship.

Neither Tiger Woods nor Phil Mickelson will play in the event, waiting for next week's World Golf Championship event at nearby Doral.

Colombia's Camilo Villegas will defend his crown against a field that also includes 2009 Honda winner Yang Yong-Eun of South Korea and 2006 winner Luke Donald of England, the world number three who won the Match-Play crown last week.

INDIANAPOLIS (AFP) - Michael Phelps, a 14-time Olympic champion, continues his preparation for the 2012 London Olympics when he swims five races at a US Grand Prix meet in Indiana University Natatorium.

Phelps, who won a record eight gold medals at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, will be tested by US rival Ryan Lochte in four events, Thursday's 200-metres freestyle and 100 butterfly and Saturday's 100 free and 200 individual medley.

Phelps, who is also expected to swim Friday's 200 fly, is working himself into shape for July's world championships in Shanghai, the last major global showdown before swimmers hit the pool in England next year.

"I have some times that I want to hit in mind," Phelps said. "This is a chance to see where I stand for worlds. That's the biggest thing, trying to get as prepared as I can and hit all my marks before world championships."

"If I do that, then I can set up my Olympic trials."

## Twin Indy races to include blind draw

FORT WORTH (AFP) - IndyCar's Twin 275 races in June will feature a blind draw for the second race at Texas Motor Speedway, in which teams can use backup cars and an extra engine under rules announced Wednesday.

Each race in the first IndyCar double-header since 1981 will provide half the season championship points and half the prize money of a regular event.

Two full-field races will be staged on the 1.5-mile oval, with qualifying to set the field for the first race and a blind draw after race one to determine the starting order for race two, with a one-hour gap between the races.

The pole sitter in race two

will not receive the bonus point in the season driver's championship chase that goes to pole winners in qualifying.

"You could see the winner from the first race starting from the back of the field, creating quite a bit of drama," IndyCar president Brian Barnhart said.

"Also, if a car suffers damage and fails to finish the first race, there will be an opportunity for the driver to rejoin in the second race as we will have extra engines available for use in their back-up chassis."

IndyCar staged 17 double-header events from 1967 through 1981, but always with the field for race two determined by the results of race one.

## Phelps enters five races at US meet



steps forward," Phelps said. "Over the last couple weeks, couple months, I feel like I'm heading in the right direction. I think there are some small technical things I need to work on."

"Hopefully I will be able to swim a little faster than I did in Texas."

Phelps, who owns world records in both butterfly events, is excited about the challenge awaiting him from a new generation of rivals in London and Shanghai.

"There are a lot of new people out there," Phelps said. "It's going to be fun this summer to head over to Shanghai and be able to swim with some new faces."

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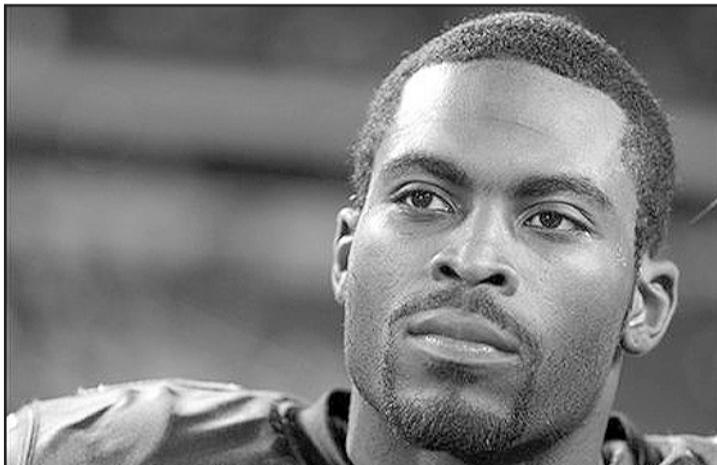
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## Vick signs one-year deal with Eagles



PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania (AFP) — Michael Vick, who missed two seasons while imprisoned for his role in a dogfight gambling ring, signed a one-year deal with the NFL's Philadelphia Eagles on Wednesday.

The star quarterback was listed as the team's designated franchise player last month, assuring him a salary

of about \$20 million next season, provided the league and players' union can agree on a new agreement for a 2011 season.

That contract is set to expire on Thursday.

Vick was a superstar for the Atlanta Falcons before his role was revealed in financing the dogfight group, including having kennels on his

property in Virginia.

Protesters targeted Vick in court appearances and at games after court documents revealed he had slain dogs through such brutal methods as beating, hanging, electrocution and drowning.

But after serving his sentence, Vick found the Eagles willing to take a chance on him. He played in 2009 behind Donovan McNabb, then took his place as a starter last year after McNabb was traded to Washington.

Vick sparked the Eagles to the NFC East division crown with a 10-6 record, completing 62.6 percent of his passes for 3,018 yards and 21 touchdowns while rushing for nine more touchdowns, all career highs.

The Eagles lost to ultimate Super Bowl champions Green Bay Packers in the first round of the play-offs.

## MLB fines Red Sox owner: report

NEW YORK (AFP) — Boston Red Sox owner John Henry has been slapped with a \$500,000 fine by the league's disciplinary officials for publicly criticizing Major League Baseball's revenue sharing rules.

On Tuesday, Henry told Boston radio station WEEI that the league hammered him for comments he made to The Boston Globe newspaper in 2009.

Following the 2009 MLB season, Henry said seven "chronically uncompetitive teams" got more than \$1 billion in revenue sharing and asked who, other than the clubs involved, could think that was a good idea.



TEMPE, Arizona (AFP) — Garrett Anderson, who played 17 seasons of Major League Baseball, announced his retirement on Tuesday.

The 38-year-old outfielder played the majority of his career with the Anaheim Angels.

Anderson's lone World Series title came in 2002 with an

Angels' championship team that later was rocked by accusations of steroid use among some of the players.

Anderson has never been accused of using performance-enhancing drugs and has said he "felt cheated" by American baseball's steroid era.

The three-time all-star Anderson joined MLB in 1994 and finished his career with an overall batting average of .293 and 287 home runs.

He spent the first 15 years of his career with the Angels before moving to Atlanta in 2009. He played last season for the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Anderson was named an all-star in 2002, 2003 and 2005.

## Concussion symptoms sideline Beckett

FORT MYERS, Florida (AFP) — Boston Red Sox pitcher Josh Beckett will miss his scheduled Major League Baseball pre-season start on Thursday because of concussion symptoms, the team announced.

Beckett was struck on the head by a batted ball on Monday during the Red Sox batting practice, although the Red Sox said the 30-year-old right-hander has passed tests and has been cleared by doctors for physical activity.

"He's allowed to do some activity," Red Sox manager Terry Francona said. "They'll

monitor his activity. He'll do some biking and some light throwing, and see how he progresses from there."

Beckett, who spent five seasons with Florida before pitching the past five seasons with Boston, helped the Marlins win the 2003 World Series and contributed to the Red Sox's 2007 World Series championship run.

Stolmy Pimentel will replace Beckett on Thursday against Philadelphia and Beckett will consult with Red Sox pitching coach Curt Young before taking his next regular turn on the mound.



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## Tennis ace Serena Williams has blood clot removed from lung



LOS ANGELES (AFP) — Serena Williams, a former world number one and 13-time Grand Slam singles champion, had emergency surgery to remove a blood clot from her lungs, a representative for the tennis star said Wednesday.

Nicole Chabot told People magazine that the 29-year-old American underwent an emergency operation at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles on Monday and continues to be hospitalized so physicians can monitor her recovery.

"Monday Serena Williams underwent emergency treatment at Cedars for a hematoma she suffered as a result of treatment for a more critical situation," Chabot

told the magazine.

"Last week, Serena suffered from a pulmonary embolism which was discovered upon her return to L.A. She had been in New York for doctor appointments for the ongoing issues with her foot."

"Doctors are continuing to monitor her situation closely to avoid additional complications."

Williams, who has slid to 11th in the rankings, has undergone two operations on her right foot since it was cut by glass at a restaurant last July. She has not played a top-level match since taking last year's Wimbledon title.

In a message on the social microblogging network Twitter, Williams posted the note "Tough day" just after mid-

night Wednesday morning in Los Angeles.

The news about Williams was a stunner to world number two Kim Clijsters, the reigning two-time US Open champion who on Wednesday tweeted, "Just read about Serena!!!! Very scary, hope she is ok! fingers crossed!"

Williams attended Oscar parties in the Los Angeles area on Sunday after the Academy Awards presentation in Hollywood.

Williams, who ranks sixth among women on the all-time Grand Slam singles title list, has won the US Open in 1999, 2002 and 2008, Wimbledon in 2002, 2003 and the past two years, the French Open in 2002 and the Australian Open in 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009 and 2010.

Serena and Venus Williams must play in the Fed Cup this year and next in order to be eligible for selection to the US Olympic team for the 2012 London Olympics.

A right hip injury forced Venus Williams to retire from a third-round match at the Australian Open in January and she has not played since.

## Talks end with no deal as deadline looms

WASHINGTON (AFP) — National Football League owners and players union representatives conducted four hours of talks on a new labor contract Wednesday, the eve of the expiration of their current bargaining deal.

New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees, who led his club to its first Super Bowl crown in 2010, was among the players on hand in a last-ditch effort to prevent what could be the NFL's first labor shutdown since 1987.

Talks with a non-binding federal mediator concluded in the afternoon with no comments from either side as many of the NFL's 32 club owners departed to meet among themselves in suburban Virginia.

The current NFL agreement with the players union expires just before midnight on Thursday as billionaire owners and multi-millionaire players have been unable to agree on how to divide 9 billion dollars in annual revenues.

Owners, who have taken 1 billion dollars off the top, want to double that figure in a new contract. That is part of the reason they voted in 2008 to opt out of the deal, setting

a clock in motion that is on the brink of running out.

Owners want to stretch the regular season from 16 to 18 games per team, which would boost income for both sides but add wear and tear for players already concerned about career longevity and safety issues.

Players seek greater benefits for players after their careers while owners want a rookie wage scale.

NFL Players Association leaders have warned the NFL clubs could impose a lockout as early as Friday, but they have also taken steps to decertify as a union, a move that would send players to court to secure a deal, setting up a protracted court fight.

The players won a court fight in Minnesota on Tuesday when a judge ruled against the NFL over television contracts that would have given them 4 billion dollars this year even if no games are played, the money to come from future telecast rights.

"This ruling means there is irrefutable evidence that owners had a premeditated plan to lock out players and fans for more than two years," a statement from the union said.

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